## **CLAIMS**

1. A solid electrolyte type fuel cell comprising a heat recovery path (11) that recovers heat loss from a cell module around said cell module including a cell stack (1) that generates electricity from a fuel gas and an oxygen-containing gas, and a burning section that contacts and burns remaining fuel gas and oxygen-containing gas from said cell stack (1), said solid electrolyte type fuel cell comprising:

5

10

15

20

25

branch flow rate regulating means (12) that branches supplied fluid to said cell stack (1), said supplied fluid being one of a fuel gas and an oxygen-containing gas, and regulates a flow rate of said supplied fluid to be branched; and

a branch flow path that supplies said supplied fluid having been branched and whose flow rate has been regulated to said heat recovery path (11).

- 2. The solid electrolyte type fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein said branch flow rate regulating means (12) increases a ratio of said flow rate of said supplied fluid to be branched to the overall flow rate, in response to partial-load operation or standby operation being conducted by said solid electrolyte type fuel cell.
- 3. The solid electrolyte type fuel cell according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said heat recovery path (11) is formed across a plurality of layers with reference to said cell module (1).
  - 4. The solid electrolyte type fuel cell according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said heat recovery path (11) further surrounds a heat exchanger (10) that exchanges heat with burned waste gas.

5. The solid electrolyte type fuel cell according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said cell module further houses a heat exchanger (10) that exchanges heat with burned waste gas.

5

15

- 6. The solid electrolyte type fuel cell according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein said heat recovery path (11) further surrounds a vaporizer (7) that vaporizes said fuel gas added with water.
- 7. The solid electrolyte type fuel cell according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein said cell module further houses a vaporizer (7) that vaporizes said fuel gas added with water.
  - 8. A solid electrolyte type fuel cell comprising a heat recovery path (11) that recovers heat loss from a cell module around said cell module including a cell stack (1) that generates electricity from a fuel gas and an oxygen-containing gas, and a burning section that contacts and burns remaining fuel gas and oxygen-containing gas from said cell stack (1), said solid electrolyte type fuel cell comprising:
- a first flow path that leads the oxygen-containing gas to said cell stack (1); and
  a second flow path that leads the oxygen-containing gas to said heat recovery
  path (11).